

October 1, 2021 • Vol. 2, Issue 76 • \$5.99

Making sense of the world



THE WEEK

Junior

A MAGICAL BIRTHDAY

Disney World celebrates
50 years of fun **p12**

THE BEST
MAGAZINE FOR
CURIOUS
KIDS





This week's big news

DID YOU KNOW?

France ruled Haiti for more than 300 years, until Haiti won independence in 1804.



The migrant camp in Del Rio, Texas, on September 19

Haiti fact file



- Population: 11.2 million
- Size: 10,714 square miles
- Official languages: Creole and French
- Capital: Port au Prince
- Type of money: Gourde
- Location: Between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Its closest neighbors are the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Cuba.

Crisis emerges at the Texas border

The US government is facing a humanitarian crisis in Del Rio, Texas, where nearly 14,000 Haitian refugees are living in a makeshift camp under a bridge. Refugees are people who have to flee their homes because of danger.

Why did the Haitians go to Texas?

Haiti is an island nation that has faced political upheaval and a series of natural disasters, including a major earthquake in 2010 and another in August. These problems have led to widespread poverty, hunger, unemployment, crime, and violence and have caused many people to leave the country within the past few years. Most of the Haitians in Del Rio traveled to South America and lived there first, in some cases for years. From there, they made the journey to the US on foot, walking through jungles and the chest-high waters of the Rio Grande River.

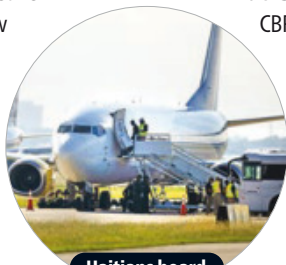
Almost 30,000 Haitians have crossed the US border from Mexico in the past 11 months, according to US Customs and Border Control (CBP). Crossing the border this way is illegal.

What is the situation at the border?

As of September 17, about 13,700 Haitian migrants (people who move from one place to another) were sheltering under the bridge in Del Rio, a small town just across the Rio Grande from Mexico. The camp increased six times in size over the course of a week in mid-September. As temperatures in Texas reach 105° F, families are bathing in the river and sleeping in tents made of giant cane plants. There is very little food and no running water, and piles of trash have grown 10 feet wide. Many migrants cross back and forth to get supplies in Mexico.

What is the government doing?

CBP closed the Del Rio border on September 17 to "respond to urgent safety and security needs," the agency said. Border patrol officers have been providing basic medical care to migrants and stopping more people from crossing the river. The US government is working to process (review paperwork for those entering the country) some Haitians for asylum (protection given to refugees) in the US. On September 19, the US began deporting (expelling from the country for legal reasons) some people back to Haiti by plane.



Haitians board a plane in Texas.

How did people react?

Bruno Lozana, the mayor of Del Rio, declared the situation a disaster on September 17, saying crowding and unsafe conditions at the camp were "no longer sustainable or acceptable." Greg Abbott, governor of Texas, blamed President Joe Biden for the increase in migrants, saying Biden "abandons border security and instead makes it easier for people to cross illegally." Alejandro Mayorkas, US secretary of Homeland Security, said migrants have been incorrectly told that if they come to the US now they will be allowed to stay. "This is not the way to come to the United States," Mayorkas said. The decision to send people back to Haiti was also heavily criticized. "It is cruel and wrong to return anyone to Haiti now," said Steve Forester, an immigration policy expert.

What will happen next?

The Biden administration is planning up to 10 flights a day to carry people back to Haiti. When the first group sent back by the US landed there, they were given a meal and \$100, but beyond that their future is uncertain. Officials say many may try to leave again because the Haitian government can do little to help them. Some Haitian refugees will also be transported to other areas in the US to relieve crowding and unsanitary conditions in Del Rio. They will be able to live in the US temporarily.



French landmark wrapped in fabric

The Arc de Triomphe, a famous monument in Paris, France, was wrapped in 270,000 square feet of shimmering silver-blue fabric secured with red velvet ropes. The project was designed by a famous artist who went by the name Christo.

Christo Vladimirov Javacheff (his full name) was born in Bulgaria in 1935, and he died in 2020 at age 84. He often worked with his wife, Jeanne-Claude, to create stunning art installations on a very large scale. In 2005, he installed "The Gates," which consisted of 7,503 gates draped in orange fabric and placed along 23 miles of Central Park in New York City.

Christo's nephew, Vladimir Yavachev, oversaw the work of more than 1,200 people to create "L'Arc de Triomphe, Wrapped," which will be on display from September 18 to October 3. Draping the 160-foot-tall monument took about two months, and reactions to the installation were mixed. Some French citizens preferred the monument, completed in 1836, in its original form. See the wrapped arch at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Christo.



"L'Arc de Triomphe, Wrapped"

FIRST STEPS
Baby elephants, called calves, can walk within one hour of being born.



Wild elephants in Sri Lanka

Elephant ruling challenged

Environmental activists in Sri Lanka are fighting a court decision they say puts elephants at risk. The ruling, on September 16, allows people who have been accused of illegally buying or capturing wild elephants to keep them in captivity.

Elephants are highly respected in Sri Lankan culture. About 14,000 elephants lived in the Southern Asian nation 200 years ago, but habitat loss and poaching (illegal hunting or capture by humans) have reduced that number to about 7,500 in the wild. In 2015, officials found 38 baby elephants that had likely been poached from national parks and sold to people as pets. They took the elephants to safety.

Earlier this year, the Sri Lankan government issued new rules that allow people to keep

elephants as pets or working animals, even if they were illegally taken from the wild. On September 6, based on those rules, a local court ordered the return of 14 of the elephants to their owners. Wildlife activists then challenged the order, arguing that it goes against environmental laws and would harm the animals and cause more elephants to be taken from the wild.

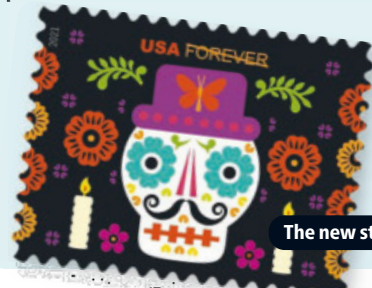
Ten days later, the court said it would not change its order, which meant the 14 elephants would be sent back to the people who kept them as pets. The activists are continuing to fight. "We are now preparing to go before the highest courts," said lawyer Ravindranath Dabare. They hope for a decision that will protect these elephants and save others from poaching in the future.



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

A NEW STAMP DESIGN

The US Postal Service released a new stamp for the Mexican holiday Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). The two-day celebration honors people who have died and features colorful parades and costumes. It starts on November 1.



The new stamp

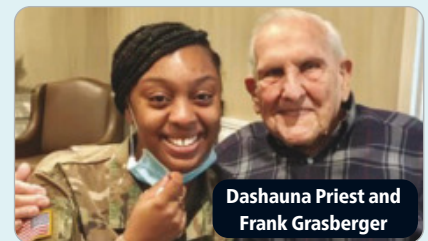


A SPICY RECYCLING PROGRAM

Taco Bell announced that it has started a recycling program for the 8.2 billion sauce packets it gives out each year in the US. Most of those single-use items end up in landfills. Now diners can mail them to a company that will clean and melt them into plastic that can be used for new products.

MEETING IN PERSON

For a school project 12 years ago, Dashauna Priest wrote a letter to Frank Grasberger to thank him for his service in World War Two. The letter meant so much to Grasberger, now age 95, that he carried it with him everywhere. With a friend's help, he finally met Priest, now 21 and in the National Guard. "This is a godsend," he said.



Dashauna Priest and Frank Grasberger



National news

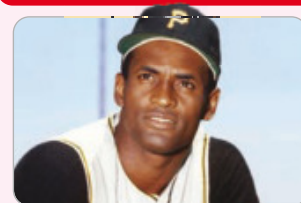
SPACE PIONEER

In 1993, astronaut Ellen Ochoa became the first Hispanic American woman to travel to space.



Dancers perform at a Hispanic Heritage event in Texas on September 15.

Roberto Clemente Day



Roberto Clemente (1934–72) was born in Puerto Rico and became a star right fielder and hitter in his 18 seasons with the Pittsburgh Pirates. He died in a plane crash while delivering humanitarian aid to Nicaragua after an earthquake. Each year on September 15, Major League Baseball players honor him by wearing his number: 21.

National Hispanic Heritage Month begins

National Hispanic Heritage Month began on September 15 and runs through October 15. It marks the achievements and contributions of Hispanic Americans. This year's theme is "Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope." *Esperanza* is the Spanish word for hope.

What is Hispanic Heritage Month?

Hispanic heritage refers to the history, culture, and influence of people from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. Official recognition of Hispanic heritage began as a one-week celebration in 1968. In 1988, the US Congress (branch of government that makes laws) expanded the celebration to a month. Nearly 19% of the US population is Hispanic. That is a total of about 62.1 million people.

Why did it begin on September 15?

September 15 is the day in 1821 when five Central American countries (present-day Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua) gained their independence after being ruled by Spain for several centuries. Other important dates during the month include Mexico's Independence Day (September 16), Chile's Independence Day (September 18), and Día de la Raza (Race Day), a holiday celebrating the various cultures that make up the Mexican population (October 12).

How is it being celebrated?

Numerous in-person and virtual events are taking place across the US. In Washington, DC, the embassy of Guatemala and the Brazilian-owned store Nova Bossa put on a cultural festival

celebrating the 200th anniversary of Guatemala's independence. In Los Angeles, California, a virtual event will share the story of a Western region where many Mexicans settled in 1821. In Denver, Colorado, an art gallery is presenting Colorado's first solo exhibition by Cuban-born artist Carlos Estévez.

How are "Hispanic" and "Latino" different?

The term "Hispanic" refers to people who speak Spanish or are descendants of Spanish-speaking populations. "Latino" refers to people who are from or descended from Latin America, which is made up of more than 20 countries in South America, Central America, and parts of the Caribbean. Both terms refer to people's geographical history, culture, and communities, not their race or ethnicity.



WORD OF THE WEEK

PATROL

To "patrol" an area is to keep watch over it by regularly walking or traveling around it. It came into English from the French *patrouiller*, meaning to "paddle in mud." Soldiers guarding a camp at night often found themselves tramping back and forth over muddy ground.



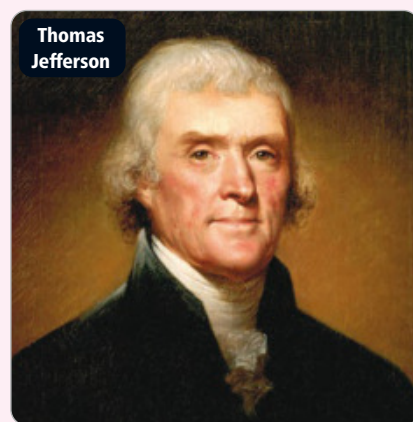
THE WEEK IN HISTORY

September 26, 1789

First Secretary of State confirmed

On September 26, 1789, Thomas Jefferson was confirmed as the first US Secretary of State. After George Washington, the first US President, nominated him, the Senate (half of the branch of government that makes laws) confirmed him. The Secretary of State manages US foreign policy (relations with other countries). He was elected Vice President in 1796 and became the third President in 1801.

Thomas Jefferson





Schools face bus driver shortage

Schools across the US, including in Illinois, Massachusetts, Montana, Pennsylvania, and Oregon, do not have enough bus drivers to transport students. Massachusetts has called on the National Guard (military members who respond to issues within the US) to drive buses in some districts, and a Montana district has offered bonuses to new drivers. Low pay and concerns about safety during the pandemic are among the reasons for the shortages.



The Lion King

Broadway opens after shutdown

The longest shutdown in Broadway history is over. Four shows, including the musical *The Lion King*, reopened on September 14, and more continue to reopen after being closed for 18 months due to the pandemic. (Broadway is the area in New York City where 41 theaters are located.) Attendees must be vaccinated and masked, and children under age 12 must show a recent negative Covid-19 test.



The 12 finalists

Top toy finalists announced

The National Toy Hall of Fame in Rochester, New York, has named 12 finalists for inclusion on its all-time top toy list. The toys, including the game Risk, American Girl dolls, and piñatas, were chosen from thousands of nominations. "Whether old or new...all 12 of these toy finalists greatly influenced the world of play," said a spokesperson. Three winners will be announced on November 4.



The US Women's National Team in 2019

DID YOU KNOW?

The earliest version of soccer, called Tsu Chu, was played in second century BC in China.

US Soccer makes effort to pay players equally

On September 14, the US Soccer Federation (the organization that oversees soccer in the US) said it will offer identical contracts to players on the men's and women's national teams. (A contract is a legally binding agreement.) The announcement was part of an attempt to resolve a lawsuit (legal dispute) filed by 28 members of the US Women's National Team (USWNT) seeking equal pay.

The lawsuit, filed in 2019, argued that female players should be paid the same as male players and that they should have the same working conditions. In December 2020, US Soccer agreed in a court settlement to equal working conditions, including games played on grass rather than artificial surfaces, which are harder on players' bodies. But the court didn't issue a ruling on the question of pay. The USWNT players asked for more than \$64 million.

US Soccer said the goal of the new offer was to bring both the men's and women's national teams

under the same pay structure. The organization also called for its next contract with both teams to award equal prize money paid out during the World Cup (the world's top soccer competition).

FIFA, the organization that runs the World Cup, offers far less in prize money for the Women's World Cup than the World Cup for men. It paid out \$400 million to teams that played in the men's

2018 World Cup and \$38 million to

players in the 2019 Women's World Cup. US Soccer said that it will not agree to any contract that does not equally award FIFA World Cup prize money.

Women's team star Alex Morgan said the players are "hopeful" about the proposal and need time to examine it more carefully. "Any commitment to equal pay publicly is good," she said. "However, we need

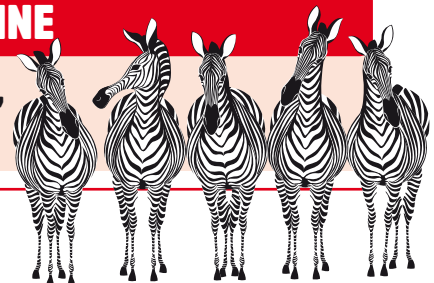
to look line by line at what they're actually providing." If the contract does not compensate the women equally or reflect their value, she said, "then we still consider that to be not good enough."



US Soccer president Cindy Parlow Cone

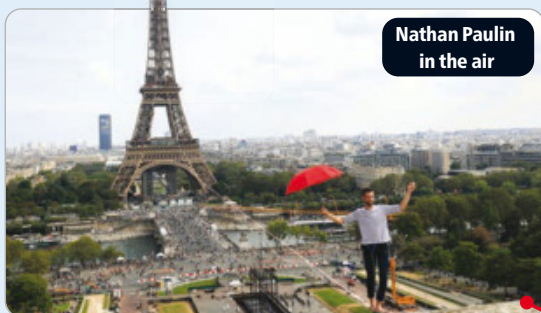
THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Five zebras roam Maryland town, turning heads" *NBC News*





Around the world



**Nathan Paulin
in the air**



Paris, France

Daredevil completes high-wire walk

On September 18, Nathan Paulin walked on a slackline (similar to a tightrope) suspended more than 229 feet above ground between the Eiffel Tower and the Chaillot Theatre. He completed the nearly 1,970-foot stretch over the River Seine in less than 30 minutes. At some points, he sat or lay down on the line as crowds cheered. Paulin took up slacklining in 2011 and holds the world record for longest urban highline walk with a safety harness.



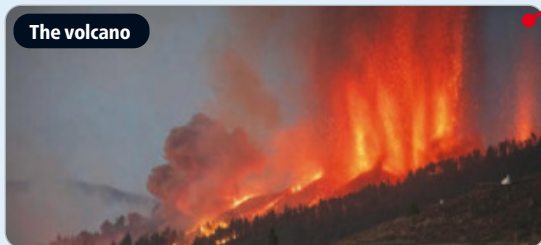
**Music on the
Grand Canal**



Venice, Italy

Giant violin floats down canal

A gigantic violin sailed through Venice's Grand Canal on September 18, carrying a string quartet playing "The Four Seasons" by the Venetian composer Antonio Vivaldi. Local artist Livio De Marchi came up with the idea for the 39-foot vessel, which is made of about a dozen types of wood and has a motor, during lockdown last year. "The violin is a sign of Venice restarting" as restrictions lift, De Marchi said.



The volcano



La Palma, Spain

Thousands evacuated as volcano erupts

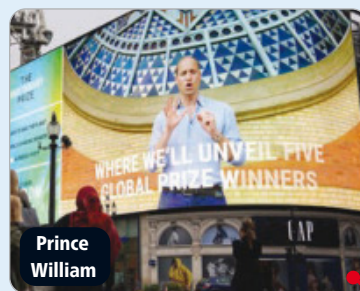
More than 5,000 people have been moved to safety after the Cumbre Vieja volcano erupted on the island of La Palma, in the Canary Islands. It's the first time the volcano has erupted in 50 years. Homes have been destroyed by lava, and emergency shelters have been set up. When *The Week Junior* went to press, there had been no deaths or major injuries reported.



United Kingdom

Environmental finalists named

Fifteen finalists were named for Prince William's first-ever Earthshot Prize to reward creative solutions to pressing environmental problems. The name was inspired by President John F. Kennedy's "Moonshot" program of lunar launches in the 1960s, which led to the first man on the moon. Five winners will be named and receive nearly \$1.4 million each.



**Prince
William**



Kigali, Rwanda

Rare birds saved

A project to save tall gray crowned cranes has rescued more than 200 cranes and helped to almost double their numbers in Rwanda. The Umusambi Village, near the capital, Kigali, takes in the injured birds that are often kept in people's houses. Once the birds are healthy, they are then released into a protected forest. The number of endangered birds has risen to 881 from 487 four years ago.



**Tall gray
crowned
cranes**

Around the world



Votes being counted



Moscow, Russia Putin's party claims victory

The political party United Russia claimed victory in the parliamentary (government) elections from September 17 to 19. United Russia is the party that supports President Vladimir Putin, who has ruled as either prime minister or president since 1999. The government said that the election was fair and honest, though many accused it of fixing the results.



One of the straw artworks



Uwasekigata Park, Japan Huge rice straw creatures on display

Huge dinosaurs, eagles, and lizards can be seen across Uwasekigata Park on Japan's west coast. The creatures are made from leftover rice straw, following the annual rice harvest. They are part of the annual Wara Art Festival, which has been held every year since 2008 but was postponed last year due to the coronavirus. The towering creations, designed by university students, will be on display through October 31.

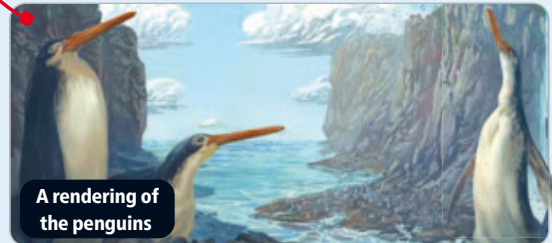


The car-roof gardens



Bangkok, Thailand Taxis turned into community garden

A parking lot of unused taxis has been turned into a community garden in Thailand's capital Bangkok. The taxis are not being driven because of coronavirus restrictions. The taxi company has allowed employees to use the taxis' trunks, hoods, and rooftops to grow chili peppers, cucumbers, zucchini, and basil to help feed out-of-work drivers and employees and as a way to relax and de-stress.



A rendering of the penguins



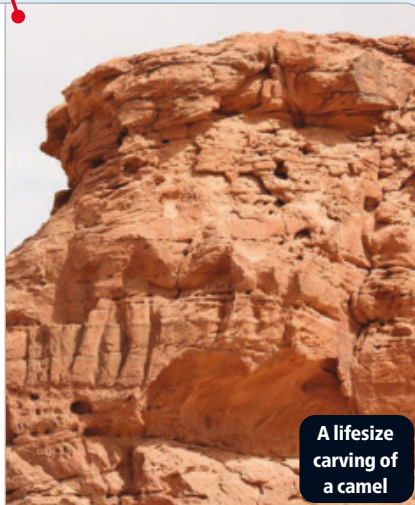
Auckland, New Zealand Ancient penguin species revealed

A recent study has found that a skeleton discovered by children in New Zealand in 2006 is a new species of prehistoric penguin. Researchers say the penguin—which stood at about 4½ feet tall—is between 27.3 and 34.6 million years old and provides valuable information about how today's penguins in the area evolved.



Saudi Arabia Rock art even older

Scientists have discovered that camel carvings in northern Saudi Arabia are thousands of years older than first thought. In 2018, sculptures of camels and other animals were found carved into stone in the desert. At first, they were thought to date back 2,000 years. New studies have found, however, that they were carved up to 6,000 years earlier. Back then, the desert was a "savanna-like grassland" with lakes and trees.



A lifesize carving of a camel



The big debate

Should billionaires go to space?

The super wealthy have the means to build their own rockets to fly. Should they?

What you need to know

- In July, billionaire Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon, made a 10-minute flight to space in his rocket ship, New Shepard. He has funded his space company, Blue Origin, with at least \$5.5 billion of his own money.
- Other famous billionaires, including Richard Branson and Elon Musk, have also flown to space or launched rockets with their own funding.
- People have criticized the wealthy men for having a "space race" instead of donating to important causes.



Richard Branson flew to the edge of space in July.

BLAST OFF

A rocket can reach a speed of 15,000 miles per hour in as little as eight minutes.

In 2021, several famous billionaires used their own money to fly their own rockets into space. Jeff Bezos, the world's richest man, flew on a rocket made by the space company he founded, Blue Origin. A few days earlier, fellow billionaire Richard Branson flew his spaceship to the edge of space. Elon Musk, the second-richest person in the world, has a growing business in "space tourism," selling high-priced seats on his Space X rocket to civilians. Critics have called such trips "joyrides for the wealthy" and say they should use their money to help solve problems like homelessness and climate change instead. Do you think billionaires should go to space?

Yes—a pioneer spirit benefits everyone

If rich people want to go to space, why shouldn't they? It's their money. No one says now that the Wright brothers were wasting time trying to fly an airplane—even though people were skeptical then, too. Billionaires are dreaming big and helping to fill gaps in our space program, which depends on US government approval for much of its spending. Wealthy individuals have figured out cheaper ways to launch rockets and satellites. And they're creating jobs and new technology, like less expensive satellite broadband internet access, that will benefit many. They already give millions to causes. They can invest in space, too.

No—they should spend money on Earth

There are many problems on our own planet that need funding, especially now when the world is battling a pandemic and climate change. Yet billionaires are spending huge amounts of money traveling to outer space. One of them, Elon Musk, has launched so many satellites into space that astronomers have accused him of polluting the view of the night sky. It also isn't fair that only very wealthy people get to see space up close. Billionaires may have a lot of money. But that doesn't make them the best decision makers about how space should be explored or who gets to do it.

YES

Three reasons why billionaires should go to space

- 1 Entrepreneurs are supporting our existing space program by expanding exploration and developing new space-related technology.
- 2 Billionaires can travel to space and donate to charity at the same time.
- 3 It's their money and they can choose how they spend it.

NO

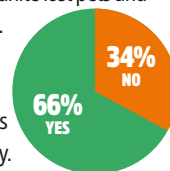
Three reasons why billionaires should not go to space

- 1 The money being devoted to a billionaire space race could be used to help solve more problems here on Earth.
- 2 Billionaires are already ruining the night sky with too many satellites.
- 3 It's unfair that the rich get themselves and other rich people to space when most people can't afford space travel.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week we asked if all pets should have a microchip, a device that helps reunite lost pets and their owners.

More of you said yes, but many said it's not necessary.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, have a parent or guardian visit theweekjunior.com/polls with you so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think billionaires should go to space or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

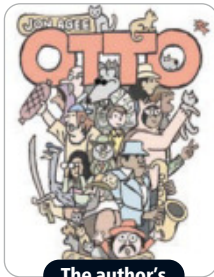


Playing with words

Jon Agee brings fun phrases and wacky ideas to life in his books.

Jon Agee has made a career of playing around with words and pictures. The author and illustrator has written five books of palindromes: words or phrases spelled the same way forward and backward. He was recently featured in a documentary called *The Palindromists* after competing at the World Palindrome Championship.

As a child, Agee liked to draw—especially fast-moving things like race cars and planes. With help from his mother, an artist, he drew picture books. Later he began creating comics and, at age 7, wrote his autobiography. “Kids are much more intelligent than [adults] give them credit for,” Agee told *The Week Junior*. Today, he writes and illustrates picture books as well as books of wordplay for kids and adults.



The author's new book

Agee's new book, *Otto: A Palindrama*, is a graphic novel about a boy who goes looking for his dog and travels through a surprising world. In an unusual twist, all the characters' names (Otto and Pip), the sentences they say (“Mr. Owl ate my metal worm”), and even words on signs (“Stop: See spots!”) are palindromes. “It’s almost like going to another planet, where everybody is speaking a strange language,” said Agee.

Creating *Otto* took about 10 years. “It was about trying to make a story that’s actually fun to read, but when you get to the end of it you realize... everything is a palindrome,” Agee said. Agee saves ideas in a notebook and comes back to them later if he gets stumped. If he is ever tempted to throw a notebook away, the answer is a palindrome: “No, Jon!”



Jon Agee

TOP SPOT
The Symmys Awards are given each year to the creators of the best new palindromes.

New leading role

Actress Beanie Feldstein will play the lead part in an upcoming production of *Funny Girl*, which is returning to Broadway for the first time in 58 years. *Funny Girl*, a musical, tells the story of real-life stage star Fanny Brice, a role that Barbra Streisand played first on Broadway in 1964 and later in the movie version. The play was nominated for eight Tony Awards (a top honor for theater). “The first time I played Fanny Brice was at my third birthday party,” said Feldstein, who is now 28. She called the role a “lifelong dream come true.”



Beanie Feldstein



Simu Liu

Superhero stardom

Actor Simu Liu, age 32, has made history as the first Asian superhero in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) by starring in the new film *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*. He faced challenges on the road to that role. He switched careers to become an actor, writer, and stuntman after losing his job as an accountant. At age 5, he made a difficult move with his family from China to Canada. As an adult, he has written about anti-Asian discrimination. “I grew up ashamed to be Asian,” Liu told *Complex*. “I just hope that kids watching this movie will be proud instead.”

OVERHEARD



“I don’t have to change who I am to be a leader.”

Poet Amanda Gorman, 23, on the power of poetry and her plans to run for US President in 2036. Gorman, who was the first National Youth Poet Laureate, recited her poem “The Hill We Climb” at the Presidential inauguration in January.



Animals and the environment

FUN FACT

Bear 480, also called Otis, has won three Fat Bear Week titles—the most so far.



The winning bear from 2020

Bears on camera

Katmai National Park and Preserve has bear cams (live cameras) to watch through early October. On the Brooks Falls cams, bears jostle for the best spot to catch salmon. The most successful bears can eat more than 30 salmon (120 pounds) per day. To view the bear cams, go to tinyurl.com/TWJUS-BearCams.



Fat Bear Week contest is back

Every year, brown bears in Alaska eat and eat, fattening up through the summer and fall.

And for the past several years, an event called Fat Bear Week has existed to follow the bears as they plump up in preparation for the long, cold winter ahead.

Fat Bear Week is returning this month for its eighth year. It is an annual competition that celebrates the success of brown bears in Katmai National Park, Alaska, as they put on weight before they hibernate. (Hibernation is when animals go into a deep sleep during winter to save their energy.) The winning bear is decided by a public vote online.

Voting will open on September 29 and end on October 5, called "Fat Bear Tuesday."

Katmai (pronounced kat-may) is home to about 2,200 brown bears. Each year, 12 are chosen to compete. Park rangers set up a bracket (chart) with bears organized in pairs, and people vote online for the bears they believe to be the fattest. The bears then move forward in the competition or are eliminated, until the final day of voting when one bear reigns supreme. The contest started in 2014 as a one-day event (Fat Bear Tuesday). In 2015, it grew into a week to raise awareness about the wildlife in the park.

Bears in Katmai bulk up so they can survive winter, when food is scarce. They do this by feasting on salmon. One of their favorite spots in the park is the Brooks River, where bears fish from June to October. By fall, several bears grow to more than 1,000 pounds. The park posts photos of the bears before and after they pack on hundreds of pounds. During hibernation, bears typically lose one-third of their body weight.

Last year, a bear named 747 was voted the 2020 winner. His estimated weight was 1,400 pounds. It was the first time he won, although he was the runner-up the year before, when a bear named 435, known as Holly, took the top spot. This year, 747 may again be the bear to beat. A former Katmai ranger named Mike Fitz said, "He's the fattest and largest bear I've ever seen."



Katmai National Park and Preserve



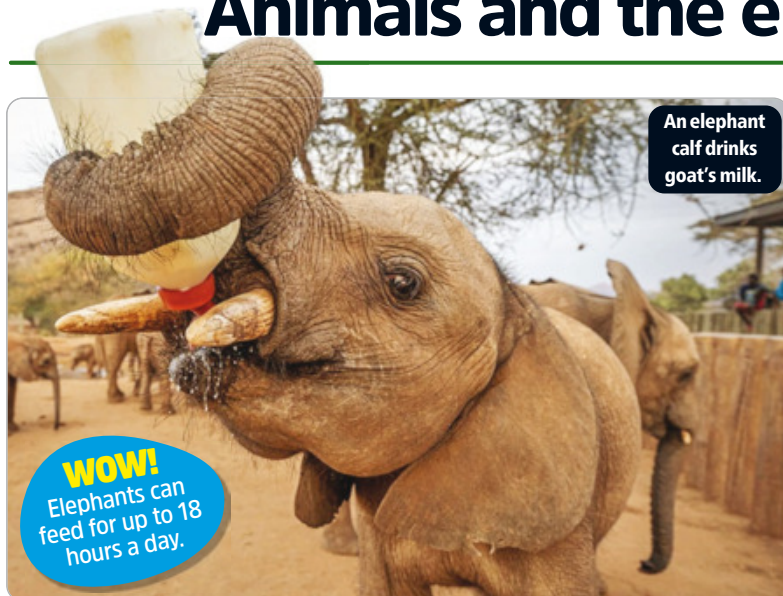
PLACE OF THE WEEK

Great Dismal Swamp, Virginia and North Carolina

The Great Dismal Swamp is a wildlife refuge that spans more than 112,000 acres across Virginia and North Carolina. The habitat is mostly forest, although there are also marshes and a large lake, Lake Drummond, where people fish or boat. At the Underground Railroad Education Pavilion, visitors can learn about the swamp's place in American history, as it provided a hiding spot for slaves escaping to freedom. Warblers (small songbirds) are common in the area, and 96 species of butterflies (such as the green Hessel's Hairstreak, found only in white cedar swamps) have been spotted.



A warbler



An elephant calf drinks goat's milk.

WOW!
Elephants can feed for up to 18 hours a day.

Goats help out baby elephants

Keepers at Reteti Elephant Sanctuary in northern Kenya were faced with the problem of how to feed their baby animals during the pandemic. The sanctuary rescues young African elephants and cares for them until they can be released back into the wild. Since the sanctuary opened in 2016, keepers had used human baby formula (a powdered alternative to human milk). However, Covid-19 travel restrictions made the formula difficult to buy. After researching other options, the keepers turned to a local option—goat's milk.

They gave a 2-week-old elephant named Sera a bottle of goat's milk. Sera took a few sips, then downed the whole bottle—and a second one. The milk helped her gain weight, and she was soon strong enough to play with other elephant calves.

Katie Rowe, the co-founder of Reteti, told *National Geographic* that goat's milk is healthy for the elephants and readily available from goats in the nearby village. Since switching to goat's milk, the survival rate for newly arrived elephants has increased from 50% to 100%.

Animal of the week

San Nicolas Island fox



San Nicolas Island foxes have a low risk of extinction, according to a new study. In spite of the good news for the small, rare fox, its numbers have declined. Efforts are being made to protect them, such as vaccinating them against diseases.

- **SIZE:** About a foot tall and up to 6 pounds
- **DIET:** Insects, fruit, island deer mice, and reptiles
- **HABITAT:** Found only on San Nicolas Island, one of eight Channel Islands off the California coast
- **LIFE SPAN:** Eight to 12 years
- **FUN FACT:** It can climb trees to find fruit to eat.



Good week / Bad week



Hutaff Island

The North Carolina Coastal Land Trust purchased Hutaff Island off the state's coast so it would be undeveloped forever. Birds can continue to nest safely there, and loggerhead turtles, which nest from May to October, will be protected too.



Cape fur seals

Hundreds of Cape fur seals on the coastline of South Africa and Namibia have gotten tangled in fishing lines and nets since 2018, a new study finds. Getting tangled can injure seals, make it harder for them to find food, and can even lead to death.



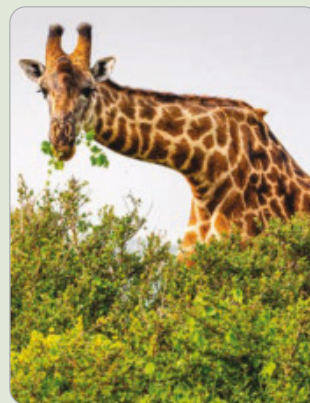
"Why do giraffes have long necks?"

Eling, 8, Indiana

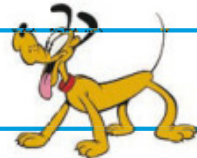
Shelby Carlos

Community engagement director, Honolulu Zoo

Giraffes have necks that take up more than one-third of their height. This helps them reach tall trees to find food. Male giraffes have a ritual of "necking" (fighting each other with their necks) to establish dominance, and their height makes them great lookouts for predators.



Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about the Honolulu Zoo in Hawaii at honolulu.zoo.org.



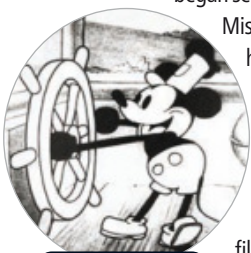
A magical kingdom

Learn the story behind the world's most popular amusement park.

The Walt Disney Company is known for everything from blockbuster movies to theme parks. October 1 is the 50th anniversary of its most visited park, Disney World, in Orlando, Florida.

Walt Disney's vision

Born in 1901, Walter Disney loved drawing and painting from a young age. At age 7, he began selling his art to neighbors in Missouri. As adults, Walt and his brother Roy opened the Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio, which became Walt Disney Studios, in California. America loved their 1928 black and white film, *Steamboat Willie*, and its star, Mickey Mouse. The studio



Steamboat Willie

went on to make huge hits like *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *Pinocchio*, and *Cinderella*. But Disney wanted to do more. Kids were sending letters asking to visit the studios, and he wanted to create a fun off-screen experience for families. Thinking about how much his two daughters loved carnival rides, Disney decided to build an amusement park.

Bringing the magic to life

Disney bought 160 acres of land in California and opened Disneyland in 1955. It was so unusual that it sparked the term "theme park" because its attractions were not just rides but themed experiences. "I want [visitors] to feel they're in another world," Disney said. In the early 1960s, he began planning a bigger park on nearly 28,000 acres in Florida. The resort would have rides, hotels, golf courses, and shopping. In 1971, the gates opened to the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World Resort.



Walt Disney with his plan for Disneyland



Indiana Jones



Animal Kingdom



Mickey Mouse and friends at Walt Disney World

FESTIVE START

During Disney World's grand opening, a 1,076-member marching band paraded through the park.

Disney's classic rides

Walt Disney World was one of the first parks to add themes and tell stories with its rides. Take a look at three major attractions that have delighted visitors for 50 years.



Jungle Cruise

One of the park's first rides has gone through many changes over the years. Today, riders embark on a river voyage featuring joke-telling boat captains, clueless tourists, and mischievous animals. This beloved ride also inspired a film, released earlier this year.





for 50 years



Toy Story



Epcot Center

From then to now

By 1982, more than 100 million people had visited Disney World. That same year, a new park called Epcot (short for "Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow") opened at the resort. Disney had envisioned Epcot as a futuristic community, but it evolved into a theme park celebrating global cultures and technology. In 1989, a park now known as Disney's Hollywood Studios opened, with a working film studio. In 1990, "The Disney Decade" began, with new hotels, rides, and a fourth park, Animal Kingdom. Many rides were based on Disney movies, and in the 1990s, rides like Tower of Terror and Pirates of the Caribbean inspired movies of their own.

Star Wars



Into the future

With four theme parks, two water parks, and an ever-expanding cast of characters, Walt Disney World attracts tens of millions of visitors each year. A new Star Wars-inspired land called Galaxy's Edge opened in 2019, and a Star Wars hotel is planned for 2022. Epcot is adding attractions based on the films *Ratatouille*, *Moana*, *Guardians of the Galaxy*, and *Soul*. Meanwhile, the company is working to make robots that can walk, talk to guests, and even fly through the air like Spider-Man. Visitors might see them at parks in the future. Walt Disney once said that his theme parks would never be completed "as long as there is imagination left in the world." Still, he said, "I only hope that we never lose sight of one thing—that it was all started by a mouse."

DID YOU KNOW?

A network of tunnels, called the Utilidor, lies beneath the Magic Kingdom. Employees use it to get around.

STYLISH MOUSE

Mickey Mouse has about 136 outfits in his closet, including a tuxedo and a scuba suit.

It's a Small World

Originally made for the 1964–1965 New York World's Fair, this ride was re-created for Disney World's opening day. The 10-minute tour celebrates children all over the world, with about 300 dolls dancing and singing the iconic theme song in five languages.



Space Mountain

This 1975 roller coaster was the first to be completely controlled by a computer. Designed to be like an astronaut's journey into outer space, the ride takes place in darkness inside a 300-foot dome. Riders blast off on two different tracks, passing stars, planets, and a wormhole.



DID YOU KNOW?
Chinese astronauts are called taikonauts, from the Chinese word *taikong*, which means space or cosmos.

A rendering of the completed space station Tiangong

Progress on China's space station

China has continued work on its new space station, according to the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA). Three astronauts that were living on the station, which is called Tiangong (meaning "heavenly palace" in Chinese), conducted two spacewalks to install equipment, including a robotic arm and camera. The crew also sent back the first photos from their mission, which show sleeping quarters on the ship, as well as views of Earth from their location about 250 miles above the planet.

CMSA launched the first section of the space station on April 29 and says it will be fully built by 2022. When it is done, scientists will perform at least 1,000 experiments in more than 20 mini-labs, which will be small, sealed spaces where tests can be carried out.

The first section to be launched was the core module, called Tianhe (meaning "harmony of the heavens"), which blasted off from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in China's Hainan province. Tianhe houses the crew's living quarters and is the space station's control center. It will connect to other modules that will launch later.

On June 17, astronauts Liu Boming, Tang Hongbo, and Nie Haisheng arrived at the module and began preparing it for missions. The only other space station in orbit around Earth is the International Space Station (ISS). The ISS is a cooperation among many countries, including Russia and the US, but not China.

Among the projects planned on Tiangong are experiments in space science, physics, and health.

Tricia Larose, a researcher at the University of Oslo in Norway, aims to find out if cancer cells grow more slowly in weightless conditions of orbit. (Cancer is a collection of diseases caused by cells that grow out of control.) China

hopes that Tiangong will help scientists learn more about the effects of space, which could be useful in future missions to Mars and the Moon.

On September 17, the astronauts returned to Earth. In October, CMSA will send a ship carrying supplies as well as a spacecraft with three new astronauts to the space station. Two additional modules, called Mengtian and Wentian, will arrive there in 2022. The station itself is set to stay in orbit for at least 10 years.



Nie Haisheng at work

Spacewalks on the ISS



Pyotr Dubrov on a spacewalk

On September 9, Russian cosmonauts (the Russian word for astronauts) on board the International Space Station (ISS) conducted their second spacewalk within a week. Oleg Novitskiy and Pyotr Dubrov are configuring a new module called Nauka, which docked at the ISS on July 29. It will house a laboratory, an additional toilet, and extra space for cargo and equipment.

Their work so far has included attaching handrails, routing cables for power and internet access, and installing equipment that will help scientists study the extreme conditions in space. The cosmonauts will make up to nine more spacewalks in order to fully integrate Nauka into the ISS.



Scientists look inside prehistoric turtle egg

Scientists have used x-ray technology to look inside the egg of an ancient turtle and study the embryo (unhatched baby) inside. The egg is a fossil (an impression or trace of ancient plants and animals preserved in rock). It was found in 2018 by a farmer in Henan province, China, an area known for having many fossilized dinosaur eggs.

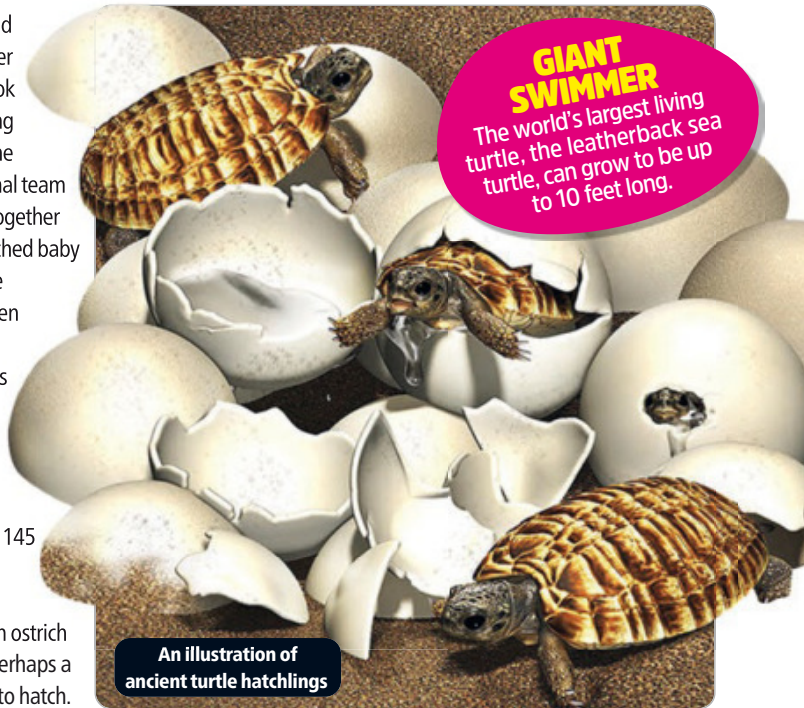
Researchers first thought the egg might be from a new dinosaur species, but they soon realized that it was a turtle egg. The fossil is nearly the size of a tennis ball and much larger than the eggs of most living turtles. Its size suggests that it was laid by an animal roughly 5 feet 3 inches long, which is about the height of an average woman.



The egg is a sphere.

Researchers Fenglu Han and Haishui Jiang used a CT scanner (a type of x-ray machine) to look inside the egg without breaking it. They made a 3D model of the jumbled bones. An international team then pieced the bones together to reveal the unhatched baby turtle. Fossil turtle embryos are often tricky to link to adult fossils. This one has been identified as a *nanhsiungchelyid*—part of an extinct turtle group that lived in China from 145 to 66 million years ago.

The scan revealed that the eggshell was very thick, like an ostrich egg. Parts of it were broken, perhaps a sign that the baby turtle tried to hatch.

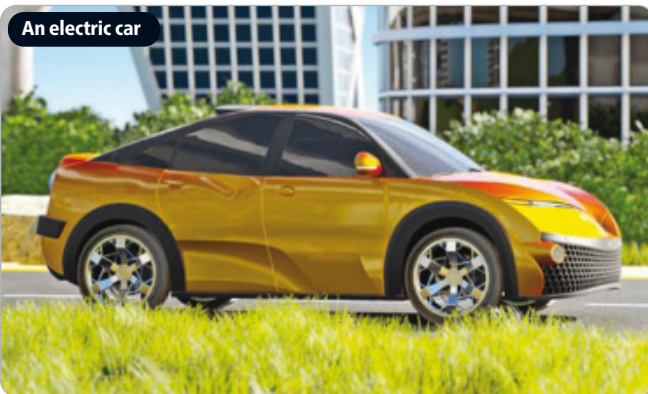


An illustration of ancient turtle hatchlings

GIANT SWIMMER

The world's largest living turtle, the leatherback sea turtle, can grow to be up to 10 feet long.

An electric car



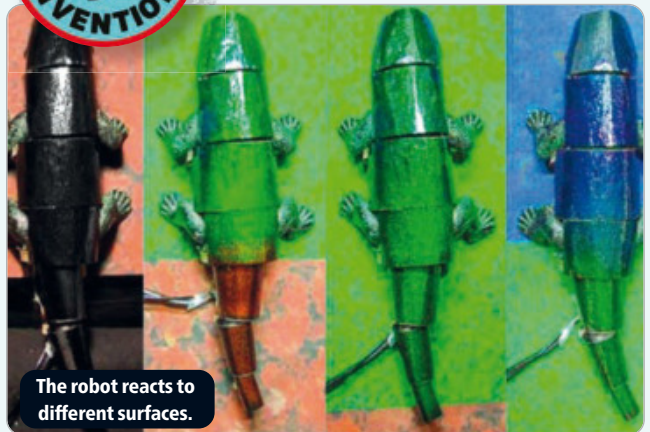
Pavement charges electric vehicles

Indiana's Department of Transportation (INDOT) and Purdue University will begin testing a new concrete that could charge electric vehicles as they drive on it. The concrete, called magment, is full of magnetic particles that can transmit an electric charge to vehicles. The company that makes it says magment can endure all types of weather and can be installed at the same cost as regular road materials.

If this technology shows promise, INDOT will build a small stretch of highway with magment to see if it can charge heavy trucks that require 200 kilowatts or more to function. The next step would be to electrify a portion of an Indiana highway with the material. The US is working to increase access to charging so the nation can transition away from gas-powered vehicles, which burn harmful fossil fuels.



A robot lizard that changes color



The robot reacts to different surfaces.

Researchers in South Korea have built a robot that changes color like a chameleon and blends into its background. The robot has sensors that detect the color of the surface it is on and a "skin" of liquid crystal ink that changes color based on its temperature. The sensors send

data to a control unit, which heats up the skin to match.

The skin also has several patterns it can use to blend in. The team that created the robot said the technology could be used to create camouflage gear and uniforms for the military or in the fashion industry.



Photos of the week



Whooo's there?

"I See You," by Deeksha Sambath of India



City slickers

"The Guardians," by Paolo Crocetta of Italy



Twice as nice

"Entangled," by Julie Halliday of the Falkland Islands



KERRY WIL; JULIE HALLIDAY; NOUSAM RAY; DEEKSHA SAMBATH; KEVIN MORGAN; PAOLO CROCETTA



Flap happy

An untitled photo of a puffin
by Kevin Morgans of the UK



Freshening up

"Floral Bathtub," by
Mousam Ray of India



Feathers in focus

"Blue Flames," a close-up
of a great blue heron,
by Kerry Wu of the US



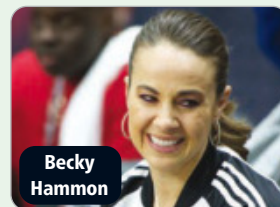
Sports



WOW!
The Connecticut Sun ended their season with a historic 14-game winning streak.

The Connecticut Sun's Dijonai Carrington (left) and Atlanta Dream's Monique Billings

WNBA player honored



Becky Hammon

WNBA great Becky Hammon's number was retired by the Las Vegas Aces on September 13. Now no Aces player can wear number 25. Hammon had spent eight seasons with the San Antonio Silver Stars, which relocated and became the Aces. Her number also was retired by the Stars. She is currently an assistant coach in the National Basketball Association (NBA).

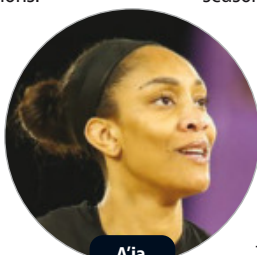
WNBA heads into playoffs

The 2021 regular season for the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) ended on September 19. With a record of 26–6, the Connecticut Sun were the champions. Eight of the league's 12 teams have made it to the playoffs, which were set to begin on September 23.

On the last day of the season, one playoff spot was up for grabs. Three teams—the Los Angeles Sparks, Washington Mystics, and New York Liberty—were all in contention. New York clinched the spot without even playing that day, after the other two teams were defeated.

The Liberty had played their final game on September 17, in what turned out to be an

important 91–80 win over the Mystics. Making it to the playoffs was a major feat for the team, who had lost 11 of their last 13 games and finished last season with a record of 2–20.



A'ja Wilson

There will be four rounds of playoff games. The top two teams, the Sun and the Las Vegas Aces, don't have to participate in the first two rounds of competitions. Since 2016, when the WNBA began using the current playoff format, the championship has been won by a first- or second-seeded (ranked) team.

In the first playoff round, the fifth-seeded Phoenix Mercury will host the eighth-seeded Liberty, and the sixth-seeded Chicago Sky will host the seventh-seeded Dallas Wings. The losing

teams will be eliminated, and the winners will go on to play either the third-seeded Minnesota Lynx or the fourth-seeded Seattle Storm.

There will be several stars to watch in the upcoming games. One of them is Phoenix's center Brittney Griner, who has been her team's best player and had the WNBA's second-highest scoring average this season. She averaged 20.5 points per game. Las Vegas forward A'ja Wilson, who won last season's Most Valuable Player (MVP) award, has had another spectacular season. She scored 18.3 points and grabbed 9.3 rebounds per game this season and will play a major role in the Aces' run to the championship. Another standout is Connecticut forward Jonquel Jones, who averaged 19.4 points and led the league with 11.2 rebounds per game.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

On September 17, Hamilton High School in Chandler, Arizona, scored 18 points in the final 70 seconds to upset Bishop Gorman, a top team from Las Vegas, Nevada. The final score was 25–24. Hamilton recovered two onside kicks and scored a touchdown with 14 seconds left in the game. The team then went for a two-point conversion, and quarterback Nicco Marchiol ran the ball into the end zone for the win.



Carissa Moore

SPORTS STARS

Simone Biles and Sunisa Lee (gymnastics), Naomi Osaka (tennis), Shohei Ohtani (baseball), Tom Brady (football), and Allyson Felix (track) made *Time* magazine's list of the 100 most influential people of the year.

SURFING

On September 14, American Carissa Moore and Brazilian Gabriel Medina won the World Surf League Championships. The event was briefly stopped due to a shark sighting.



FUN FACT

A record 12 Americans are eligible to participate in this year's Champions League.



Liverpool players

Champions League tournament starts

The 2021–2022 Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Champions League kicked off on September 14. The Champions League, a tournament that begins with 32 teams, is one of the most prestigious events in all of sports. The winner is considered the champion of Europe.

The first days of competition included big matchups, a stunning upset, and a historic debut. On September 14, England's Manchester United, a top club, played Switzerland's BSC Young Boys. It was expected to be an easy win for Manchester United, but the Young Boys pulled off a shocking 2–1 victory. United's star forward Cristiano Ronaldo scored early, and the Young Boys didn't tie it up until the second half. In the final seconds of play, Young Boys' Jordan Pefok, who is from Washington, DC, scored for the win. The same

day, in a match between two of the best clubs in the world, FC Bayern Munich dominated FC Barcelona in a 3–0 victory.

On September 15, England's Liverpool FC beat Italy's AC Milan, 3–2, in a back-and-forth contest. Liverpool took an early lead after AC Milan scored on itself, but Milan bounced back with goals by Ante Rebic and Brahim Diaz just before halftime. After the break, Liverpool star Mohamed Salah tied it up. With about 20 minutes left, Liverpool's Jordan Henderson scored the game-winning goal.

Another team celebrating that day was Sheriff Tiraspol from Moldova. They are the first team from that country to play in the Champions League. They made it through four qualifying rounds to earn their spot. In a surprising win, they defeated Ukraine's Shakhtar Donetsk, 2–0.



COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Cesar Ravedutti**

Team: **Leaders for Life (ATA Taekwondo)**

“Mr. Ravedutti is awesome! It's amazing to watch him show off his skills and know I can someday do what he is doing. He is not only dedicated to building our martial arts skills, but he also teaches us important leadership skills. Mr. Ravedutti has a contagious enthusiasm for this sport and makes everyone smile. He is warm, kind, and passionate about helping others, and he empowers his students to carry those same traits.” Olive, 10, Texas



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to hello@theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Cassie Sumfest

AGE: 22 SPORT: FIELD HOCKEY

TEAM: UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Sister act I started playing field hockey around age 9. I'd travel with my older sister to her tournaments and fill in for players when needed. I fell in love with how competitive the sport is.

On the road When I was younger, I used to train with a team three hours from my hometown. It was worth every drive.

Strong comeback I badly injured my knee in 2019. To recover, I worked hard in the weight room to gain back all my muscle and became even stronger than before. Returning to the field was scary, but I gained confidence and earned a starting spot on the team.

Busy days During field hockey season, we practice every afternoon for a few hours. I'll go from class, to rehab, to practice, to class meetings, then home to do homework.

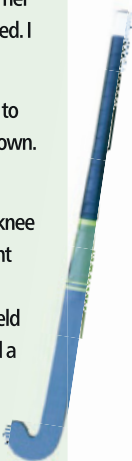
Motivation trick I'm always looking to be the best version of myself. Thinking about future games motivates me to get in shape and work hard.

Eating energy For fuel, I'm a huge seafood person. I love salmon, shrimp, tilapia. I always pair those with pasta or rice and a vegetable.

Ready to play I always do game-day braids. After our team meal, I like to stretch and use a foam roller to get my body ready for the game. I'll listen to rap music and current pop music to get pumped.

Career goals I want to train with the national team and get a job in sports marketing.

Her advice Whether you feel like you're not the fastest, or not playing the best, or you don't make a team, never give up. Our coach says, “Hard work will beat talent anytime talent doesn't work hard.”





FUN FACT

In recent years, the Addams Family has been produced by more high schools than any other musical.



Addams Family 2

The Addams Family returns

In a new animated film, the creepy, kooky characters go on a road trip across the US.

On October 1, the animated comedy *Addams Family 2* will be released in movie theaters and on demand. It is a sequel to the 2019 film. Both were directed by Conrad Vernon.

The Addams Family was created in 1938 by cartoonist Charles Addams. He lived from 1912 to 1988. Family members, led by parents Gomez and Morticia, have a spooky house, enjoy scary things, and have a dark sense of humor. Vernon has been a fan of the characters since

he watched them in a TV series when he was young. "It had a creepy edge, and that made it interesting to me," he told *The Week Junior*.

In the film, the family takes a road trip in their haunted camper. Some of the places they visit are Salem, Massachusetts, where witch trials took place in the late 1600s, and Sleepy Hollow, New York, the setting of a famous ghost story. "These are fun places for the family," Vernon said.

Many of the film's gags were pulled from Addams' original comics. Sharp-

eyed viewers may spot a shadowy figure from the comics that is hidden in the background of scenes. Another secret of the film is that rapper Snoop Dogg voices the family's cousin IT, but his words are gibberish. However, Vernon said, "If you slow his voice down and run it backward, he says lines that make sense in the movie."

Vernon liked sending the family on a road trip to see how they affect "normal" people. But, he added, there is no such thing as a "normal" person. "Everyone has their own little quirks," he told *The Week Junior*. "The Addams Family celebrates their oddness. I think everyone should."



Charles Addams

More about the family

In print

The Addams Family appeared in 58 cartoons in *The New Yorker* magazine. A book about the characters, *The Addams Family: An Eviltion*, includes more than 200 cartoons.



An Addams drawing

On screen

The original *Addams Family* TV series aired from 1964 to 1966. The first live-action film came in 1991. An upcoming Netflix series called *Wednesday* will focus on the family's teen daughter and star Jenna Ortega.



The TV family

On stage

In 2010, the musical *The Addams Family* hit Broadway. The show was nominated for two Tonys (a top theater award) and won other awards. It has been performed around the world.



Broadway stars



DID YOU KNOW?

In the 1950s and 1960s, Alabama was a center of the civil rights movement.



Elisha "EJ" Williams (center) and the cast of *The Wonder Years*

Show about growing up in the 1960s

A new comedy called *The Wonder Years* is now on ABC. The show is about a 12-year-old Black boy, Dean, who is growing up in Montgomery, Alabama, in the late 1960s. The show airs on Wednesdays at 8:30 pm ET. The first episode is being rebroadcast on September 24 at 8 pm ET.

The Wonder Years is inspired by a popular series of the same name that ran from 1988 to 1993. That show was about a white boy and his family in the late 1960s. The new series is written by Saladin K. Patterson, who wanted to depict the life of a loving middle-class Black family. He based parts of the show on his own experiences.

Dean is played by Elisha "EJ" Williams, age 12. His character is slightly insecure but inquisitive

and hopeful. He deals with typical middle school issues, such as having a crush, but the show covers more serious topics as well. During the 1960s, segregation (the unjust separation of Black people from white people) was common in Alabama. However, Dean is a uniter, Williams said. One thing he wants to do is have his all-Black Little League team play an all-white team.

Williams told *The Week Junior* that he is learning a lot from acting in the series. "It can get tough and emotional at times, and I'm not gonna lie, at one point I cried," he said. "But they weren't tears of sadness, they were tears of realization. Being able to see the difference between the time we live in now and the time then is great."



MOVIE NIGHT

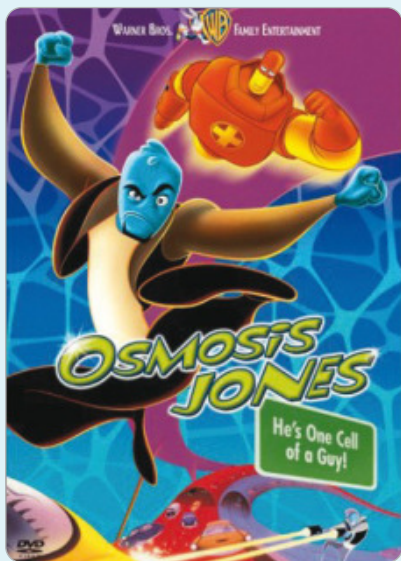
Gather your family for this action movie that imagines what goes on inside the human body.

Osmosis Jones (2001)

Netflix

PG

This film begins as a live-action movie following Frank, a single father who works at a zoo. Inside Frank's body is where the animated portion of the film is set. There, his cells have human-like personalities and can talk. Osmosis Jones is a free-spirited white blood cell cop. The criminals he fights are often harmful bacteria. One day, Frank eats a bad egg and unknowingly contracts a deadly virus, a villain named Thrax. He enters Frank's body disguised as a cold virus. To feel better, Frank takes a pill that becomes an animated character named Drix. Other cells don't believe Osmosis when he warns that Frank may have more than a common cold. Can he and Drix stop Thrax from unleashing an infection so they can save Frank's life?

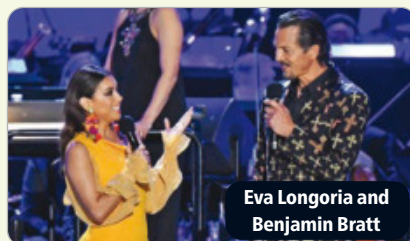


THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST



Great Barrier Reef (Disney+)

This National Geographic documentary series takes high-tech cameras underwater to explore Australia's Great Barrier Reef, the world's largest coral reef system. Viewers can learn about the natural wonder and its wildlife, as well as how the reef is being affected by climate change.



Eva Longoria and Benjamin Bratt

A Celebration of the Music From *Coco* (Disney+)

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, watch this concert that brings the animated film *Coco* to life. The performers include voice actors from the original film, such as Benjamin Bratt, who played Ernesto, and Jaime Camil, who played Papá.



Backyard Blowout (Peacock)

Kids create new backyards for their families in this DIY reality series. Their ideas include multi-level tree houses, ziplines, and roller coasters. Host Jonathan Kidder and outdoor design expert Sana Garner oversee the process and make sure the family's needs are met.



On screen



Hot Wheels
Unleashed

WOW!
More than 7 billion Hot Wheels cars have been sold since 1968. About 16 are purchased every second.

Race Hot Wheels in new game

Hot Wheels Unleashed is a new racing video game for PlayStation systems, Xbox consoles, Nintendo Switch, and the computer. It will be released on September 30 and can be played in single-player mode or with multiple racers.

Hot Wheels are mini toy cars that were first released in 1968. Collectors race them on tracks they build using connecting pieces. In Hot Wheels Unleashed, the tracks have been turned into exciting arcade-style courses for fast, action-packed competitions.

You can race more than 60 different cars in the game. There are Hot Wheels classics, such as drag-racing hot rods, souped-up school buses, and dino-mobiles like the Motosaurus. Other vehicles include the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles van, the Batmobile, and a truck called the Roller Toaster

that has sliced bread sticking out of its roof. Completing challenges or buying future downloadable content makes more cars available.

The courses are just as unique as the cars. The game starts out with six environments, including a cool basement, a skyscraper, and a skate park.

Each one has a course filled with huge loops, wild twists, and places to explore. They all have their own obstacles and challenges, too. For example, the skate park has an angry mechanical dinosaur on the track and a parkour gym where you can practice jumps.

Once you've mastered a track, you can build your own in that environment. The customize mode lets you place tracks anywhere, insert obstacles and challenges, and create monster ramps that will send your car flying. The sky really is the limit.



A Roller
Toaster



PODCAST OF THE WEEK

IS THAT TRUE?

is-that-true.simplecast.com

Much of what you see or hear online isn't true. In each episode of this series, journalist Arionne Nettles takes wild and crazy "facts" from the internet, TV, and movies and runs them by experts. If you've ever heard about potato farming on Mars, you will definitely want to listen.



APP OF THE WEEK



SHOP TITANS

Apple App Store, Google Play

Pretend to be a shopkeeper in the Middle Ages. Forge swords and armor, cut deals with the tailor, hire workers, and build your business empire. The deals come fast, and it takes work to keep up with demand. But as your store grows, you'll become the most popular person in town.



WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

J.K. ROWLING

stories.jkrowling.com

Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling has just launched a new website for kids. It's filled with fun details about how she wrote her famous book series, as well as answers to some burning questions and information about her upcoming children's book, *The Christmas Pig*.





BOOK OF THE WEEK

Bad Sister

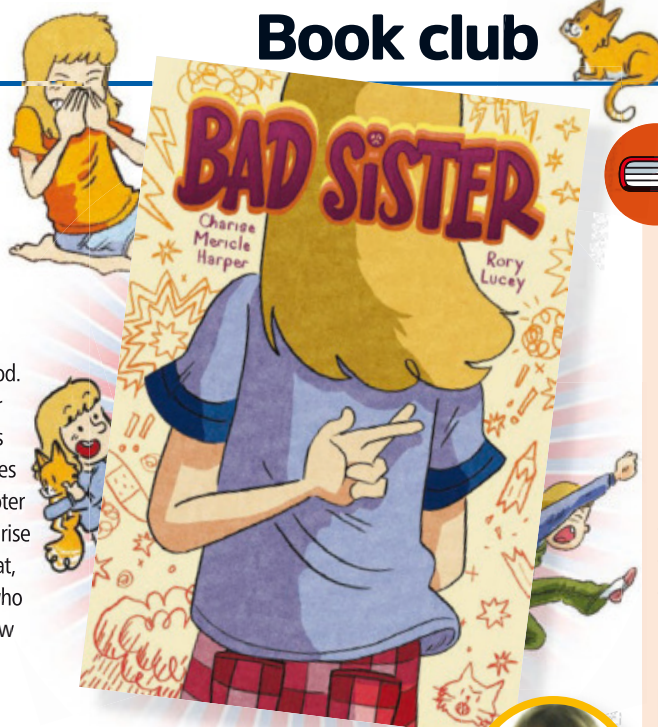
By Charise Mericle Harper,
illustrated by Rory Lucey
(First Second)

This graphic novel contains true stories from the author's childhood. It begins when Charise's younger brother, Daniel, is born. Charise is jealous of the attention he receives from their parents. The next chapter takes place a few years later. Charise won't let Daniel play with their cat, and the siblings squabble over who the cat loves more. No matter how much Charise picks on Daniel, he seems willing to forgive her. Sometimes they have a lot of fun together. They secretly find a way to talk through their walls at bedtime. A turning point comes when Charise knocks out Daniel's tooth during a hockey game, and his replacement tooth isn't the same color as his other teeth. This book may make you think about how our actions affect others, and the style of the art may remind you of newspaper comics.

WIN A BOOK!

We're giving away five copies of *Bad Sister*.

For a chance to win, send your name and address to contests@theweekjunior.com with *Bad Sister* in the subject line. Enter by midnight on October 15. See theweekjunior.com/terms for complete rules.



ASK THE AUTHOR

Charise Mericle Harper

We spoke to the author of *Bad Sister*.

How can someone be a kind sibling?

Remember that your actions may cause others to react a certain way, and some disappointment may result from that.

Why is it important to own up to a mistake?

When you own up to a mistake, you may gain self-awareness. No one is perfect.

What do you enjoy about writing graphic novels?

I like the combination of words and pictures. Graphic

novels have a sense of action. They remind me of the way you can see things happening in a movie.

Did you read a lot growing up?

Yes, all the time. My very first job was shelving books at a library.

Summer or fall?

Fall! As a child, I always thought going back to school in the fall was super fun. I liked that I could become a different person each new year.



4 almanacs filled with fun facts

These books contain the latest news and information on specific subjects.



The 2022 Family Astronomical Almanac

(Bushel & Peck Books)

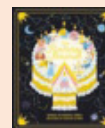
This book lists the dates of the meteor showers, eclipses, and lunar cycles happening in 2022. It explains where to look in the sky and whether or not you need a telescope or binoculars to see what's happening. The photos of the planets, moons, and stars are amazing. *All ages*



National Geographic Kids Almanac 2022

(National Geographic Kids)

The book recaps the top news of the previous year and tells you what to look forward to in 2022. It also contains a chapter on how to use less plastic to help the environment. There are many cool animal and science photos throughout the book, such as one of a sloth-shaped robot. *All ages*



The Birthday Almanac

By Claire Saunders,
illustrated by Alison Czinkota

(Wide Eyed Editions)

Find out what happened in the world on the day you were born, learn about how birthdays are celebrated in other countries, and pick up some birthday facts. For instance, did you know there was once a birthday cake in New York City that had 72,585 candles? *All ages*



The World Almanac 5,001 Incredible Facts for Kids on Nature, Science, and People

(World Almanac Kids)

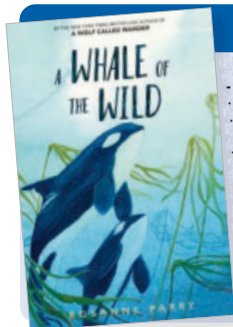
From toys to treasures, sharks to skyscrapers, this giant book covers a wide range of topics. The last chapter, "50 Facts That Are Just Plain Weird," is especially fun to read. After you page through it, impress your friends and family with your new knowledge. *All ages*

READER RECOMMENDS

A Whale of the Wild By Rosanne Perry

"An orca named Vega lived a normal life with her family in the Salish Sea, except for the giant, deafening ships and net boats taking away her family's salmon. When a tragedy strikes, Vega and her brother are separated from the ones they love. They also learn that not all humans are enemies. This story shows the challenges an orca has to face in a world with humans." Giovanna, 13, Wisconsin

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.





How to...

DID YOU KNOW?

The word "scientist" comes from the Latin word for knowledge.



Be a citizen scientist

Your observations can be helpful to researchers around the world.

Heading outside after dark and recording how many stars you can see with the light population in your area. Keeping track of how many eggs hatch in bird nests in your yard. Spending a day counting all the butterflies in a local park. What do these activities have in common? They're all examples of citizen science projects, in which professional scientists ask regular people (including kids like you!) to help them collect observations from all over the world so they can better understand animals, nature, and more. Read on to learn more about what a citizen scientist is and how you can get involved.

Learn about citizen science

Citizen science is when members of the public voluntarily participate in scientific studies by collecting data (like how many trees of a certain type there are in their neighborhood or what color the algae is in local lakes) or monitoring potential problems (like water quality or light pollution), and then report their findings back to groups doing research. This is important because it allows scientists to get lots of information from around the country and world, which helps them better understand whatever it is they're studying. Today most of these projects provide information and training on how to help on their websites and then have volunteers return to a website or app to upload their findings.



Count some butterflies.

Find a project

There are lots of different types of projects you can participate in. We've included some great ideas in the sidebar to the right, and there are many more you can consider. Ask an adult to help you visit tinyurl.com/TWJUS-CitizenScience where you can search for options. Start by selecting when or where you can gather data (such as at the beach, on a hike, or even at home) and then add in a category you're interested in (animals, physics, transportation). You can also

choose to search by keyword if you have something specific you want to observe. Once you have your search results, click through to the websites to find out more about whether you qualify to help and what you'll need to do.

Get set to collect data

Once you've found a research project, ask your parents to help you look through the website to see how to get started. In some cases, you might need to watch online videos to learn more about what the researchers want you to do. Or they might send you a packet of information to read or ask you to purchase a kit to help with your observations. Be sure to follow the instructions closely—now and then again once you're ready to start collecting data—to make sure your observations are accurate.

4 science projects that need helpers

Count birds

Plan ahead to join the Christmas Bird Count from December 14 to January 5. Groups of citizen scientists gather and count all the birds they see to help scientists learn more about migration patterns. Go to christmasbirdcount.org to find out more.



Take water samples

Visit monitorwater.org with your parents to order a kit that will teach you how to test water sources for pH, temperature, and

turbidity. Enter your results on their website to help scientists better understand the state of the world's water.

Listen for frogs

Join FrogWatch USA to help monitor wetland frog populations. This will help scientists track populations and catch any rare or invasive species early. Learn more at frogwatch.nextfieldscope.org.



Spot stars



The online Galaxy Zoo project lets you look at NASA photos and

classify them by shape so scientists can learn more about what exists in outer space—and you don't even need a telescope! Visit galaxyzoo.org with an adult to get started.



SPRUCE UP YOUR HANDWRITING

It's important to be able to write clearly so your words can be easily read by others. If you'd like to work on your handwriting, try these tips.

- 1. Get some inspiration.** Think about what you would like your handwriting to look like. You can get inspiration from a friend or family member's handwriting or even from fonts on your computer.
- 2. Practice often.** Once you have an idea of what you want your handwriting to look like, set a practice goal. For example, you could commit to writing a page each day in a blank notebook. You can write the alphabet, favorite song lyrics, or journal entries.
- 3. Take your time.** One of the most common reasons for unclear handwriting is rushing. When you're practicing, take your time to slowly write each letter the way you want it to look. You'll be able to write faster eventually, but going slow is better for now.



POPULAR PICKS

The most popular apple variety in the US is Gala, followed by Red Delicious.



WARNING!
Ask an adult's permission before using the oven.

Bake delicious apple dumplings

Ingredients

- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 1 Tablespoon cinnamon
- ¼ cup chopped walnuts
- ¼ cup old-fashioned oats
- 4 Tablespoons cold butter, cubed
- 4 baking apples
- 1 lemon
- 2 store-bought pie crusts
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon coarse sugar

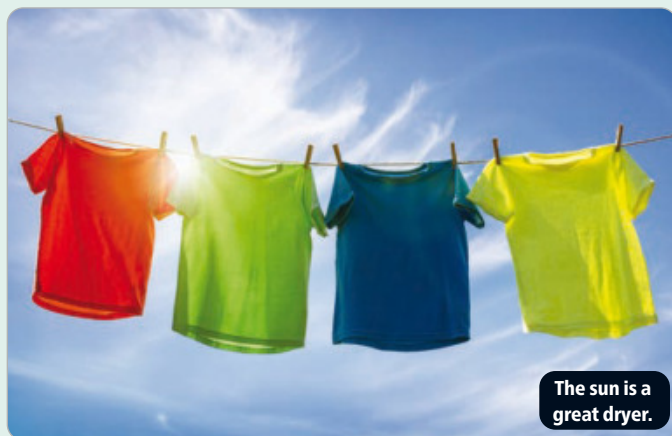
Instructions

1. Mix together the brown sugar, cinnamon, walnuts, and oats in a bowl. Pinch the butter into the sugar mixture until incorporated. Set aside.
2. On a lightly floured surface, unroll the 2 dough circles and cut each in half. Gently roll out each piece until it is large enough to trim into an 8-inch square. Use dough trimmings to cut out simple leaf shapes for decorating the tops of the dumplings. Set dough aside.
3. Use a vegetable peeler to remove the skin from the apples. With help from an adult, carefully remove the core from each apple. Drizzle with juice from half of the lemon.
4. Preheat oven to 375°F. Arrange a dough square on a lightly floured surface and set an apple in the center. Fill the apple with ¼ of the sugar mixture. Fold the dough around the apple, pinching the dough together at the top. Repeat with remaining apples, filling, and dough. Decorate each apple with the dough leaves, then arrange apples in a baking dish. Chill in the freezer for 15 minutes.
5. In a small bowl, mix the egg with 2 teaspoons water, then brush it onto the dumplings. Sprinkle with sugar. Poke a few holes in the top of each dumpling with a toothpick or fork.
6. Bake apples for 45 minutes or until crust is golden brown.



ECO TIP OF THE WEEK HANG CLOTHES TO DRY THEM

Doing laundry is most likely already a part of your family's weekly routine. After all, everybody needs clean clothes to wear! This chore can be harmful to the environment, though, because washers and dryers use electricity. One way to help the environment is to skip using the dryer when possible. Hang your wet clothes on an indoor rack or an outdoor clothes line until they're dry. If you're in a hurry, another option is to take the clothes out of the dryer when they're halfway dry and hang them up. That way, you will use half the amount of energy but your clothes will dry faster since they don't start out totally wet.



The sun is a great dryer.



Keyword crossword

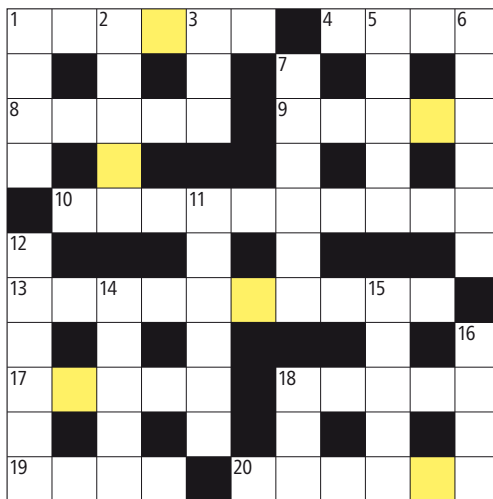
Once you have completed the crossword, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question.

ACROSS

- 1 Floating soap sphere
- 4 Result of a mosquito bite
- 8 Speed limit on many highways
- 9 A lot more than just once in a while
- 10 Shaped like diagonally cut sandwich halves
- 13 Person in a crosswalk
- 17 Visitor from another planet
- 18 Two halves together make this
- 19 Take a walk in the woods
- 20 The O in O₂

DOWN

- 1 A batter tries to reach this after hitting the ball
- 2 A fighter in a ring or a kind of short-haired dog
- 3 ___ eggs (what hens do)
- 5 What you get when you add up numbers
- 6 Like the caterpillar in a famous children's book
- 7 Animal sometimes referred to as a puma
- 11 How you may be marked if you're not marked "present"
- 12 Watery sound effect
- 14 Have some juice or lemonade
- 15 Sing ___ (sing while the music plays)
- 16 Tube that blood flows through in your body
- 18 Substance found in honeycombs or ears



Keyword question: What kind of creature is one out of every four creatures on Earth believed to be?



ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.

THREE FOR ALL

Sort this list into three familiar three-part phrases, like THREE-RING CIRCUS or SALT LAKE CITY.

SIDE OF PEACE MIDDLE
IN RIGHT NOWHERE LEFT UP

Cutting room

Divide this grid into five sections so each section consists of five adjacent boxes containing the numbers 1–5. The sections may have different shapes.

2	1	3	2	3
5	2	4	5	3
4	3	1	2	1
1	5	5	1	4
4	2	4	3	5



CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of school subjects, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list. Hint: Every X here is an uncoded C. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code. (NEED ANOTHER HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

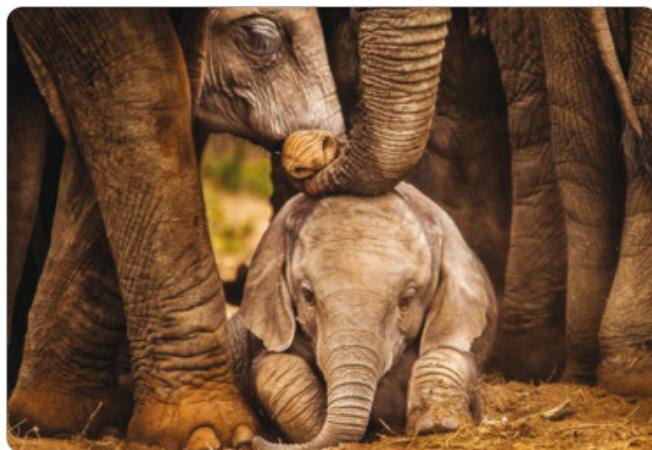
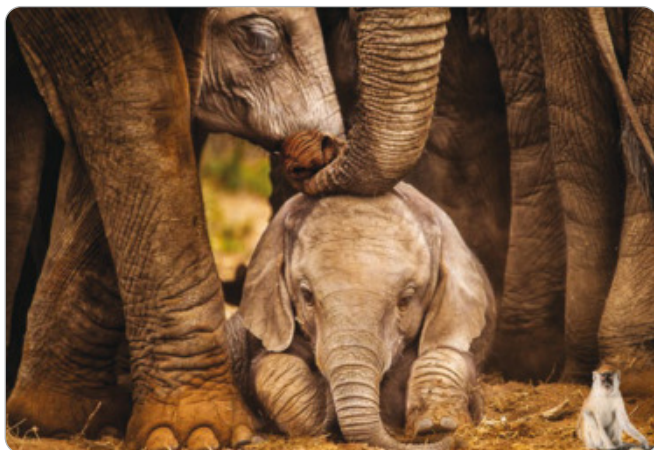
K V M U P T Z

T X P K V X K

A B C Z K A B C P X T

Spot the difference

These two pictures of a mother and baby elephant appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





David Rush
with the rolls

Man sets toilet paper record

A man from Idaho set a Guinness World Record by balancing 101 rolls of toilet paper on his head. David Rush has achieved more than 200 world records to promote science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education. These include the fastest time to drink one liter of lemon juice through a straw and the most T-shirts put on in one minute. He said balancing the toilet paper rolls was one of his hardest records yet. There were many failed attempts before he tried stacking the rolls in a pyramid.

"Tortilla fish" caught

A fisherman in Tampa, Florida, caught a 22-inch fish that looked more like a flour tortilla than a sea creature. Wildlife experts identified Tom Bosworth's catch as an orange filefish. After snagging the curious catch, he threw it back into the water. "It's certainly one of the most interesting fish I ever caught," Bosworth said.



The
catch was
curious.

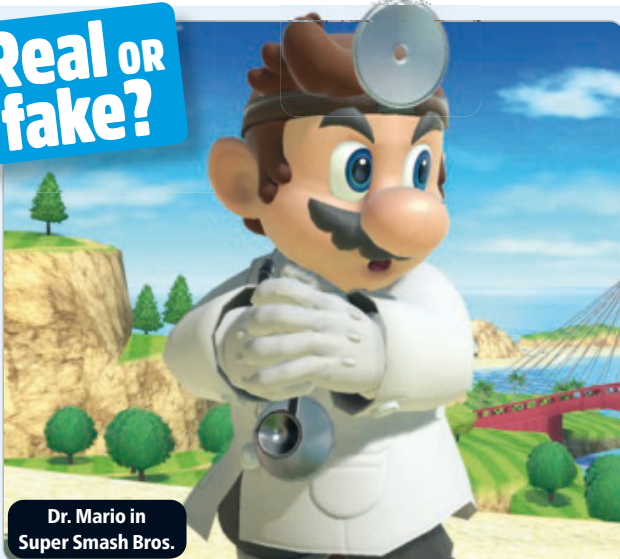


The ball
didn't pop.

Miles of happy hopping

David Kay, of the UK, bounced for more than 10 miles on an inflatable hoppity hop ball to set a new Guinness World Record and raise money for charity. Kay wanted to bounce for 13 miles on the ball but stopped after 10.5 miles. He had someone walk in front of him the whole time, sweeping anything out of the way that might puncture the ball. The entire trip took 17 hours.

Real or fake?



Dr. Mario in
Super Smash Bros.

Dentist sets a gaming challenge

A Massachusetts dentist announced that he will only treat patients who beat him at the Nintendo video game Super Smash Bros. Ultimate. Dr. Tej Shah said he'll even give winners a free teeth cleaning. If a player loses, however, not only will he turn them away, but they will have to post on social media that they lost to a dentist. Shah is known for the video games in his office, which has rooms decorated in Zelda and Final Fantasy themes. He hopes to host a Super Smash Bros. tournament in October. Is this story real, or are we lying through our teeth?*



Henry
the hen

Chicken helps children cross road

A preschool in New Zealand has a special crossing guard: a female chicken named Henry. The feathered traffic officer wears a bright yellow vest when she's on duty inspecting vehicles and greeting people, and drivers are extra cautious at the school when Henry is patrolling the area. "It's lucky that she's a humble hen, or it would surely go to her head," her owner, a farmer, said.

*Faked! Dr Tej Shah is not deciding who to treat based on who beats him at the game Super Smash Bros. Ultimate. However, he will give anyone who does beat him a free dental cleaning.



Your turn

Editor's note

When I was growing up in a small town in Northern New York, my father's family lived on a farm with a long row of apple trees at one edge of it. My mother's parents had an apple tree in their backyard too. So I have many wonderful memories of picking the fruit and making apple pies, apple sauce, and baked apples—or, my favorite, just munching them directly from the trees. Now I have apples growing from a tree in my front yard, and every time I bake a pie with them I think of my grandparents. (The pies might even be a little bit more delicious because of those memories.) If you try our recipe for apple dumplings on p25, let us know how they turn out. We also invite you to tell us what you appreciate about the special older people in your life (see the box below). We're always happy to hear from you at hello@theweekjunior.com.



Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

Crafting to fund cancer research

“Last year I started making soap. I thought I should do something to help find a cure for cancer. So I decided all the money would go to cancer research. I sold the soap at school to students and teachers. I made around \$145. I then started making jewelry. I sold it to people at my campground. After a week I started receiving donations. I've made up to \$375 by selling jewelry and soap. I still make jewelry and can't wait to donate to Mayo cancer research.”



Carleen, 12,
Minnesota

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.

Joke of the Week
What dish is never served in a fast food restaurant?
Snails.

CHARITY OF THE WEEK



American Stroke Foundation

This organization supports people who have suffered from a stroke and helps their family members and caregivers. A stroke occurs when blood supply to the brain is reduced or interrupted. The group helps stroke survivors relearn skills, communicate their needs, establish healthy habits, and more. Find out more at americanstroke.org.



Why do you appreciate your grandparents?

Grandparents can play a special role in children's lives, and they are always worth celebrating! We recently asked readers of *The Week Junior* to share their thoughts about a grandparent or another older person in their life. To participate, ask a parent or guardian to download the form (like the one at right) at theweekjunior.com/activities. Fill it out and have an adult send it to us at hello@theweekjunior.com. We'll feature some of the responses in future issues.

Why my grandparents are important to me

First name: Alan Age: 10 State: TX

In honor of Grandparents Day explain why your grandparents are important to you.

My grandpa is in the house. He gives me advice. He is very kind and he has been there for me since I was born. He has been a great role model for me and I love him.

If you could describe your grandparents in three words, which three words would you choose?

Loving, Kind, Funny

What is your favorite memory of being with your grandparents?

I have so many memories of me with my grandpa, but I love playing cards with him.

Draw a picture of you with your grandparents.

THE WEEK
Junior

IT'S YOUR TURN

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.



YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"We read about the *Human+ Nature* exhibit, and then we visited the sculptures in person. They are really big and cool! We wish we could have climbed on them, but we were only allowed to touch them."

Sam, 12, and Tim, 9, Wisconsin

"We love reading *The Week Junior* every week! We read it with our cousins! Here I am with Owen, Skye, Phoebe, Mia, and Beckett!" Caiden (far right), 13, Virginia



POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjuniorus on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7–12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: What are three words that best describe you?

"Creative, fun, and happy-go-lucky."

"Athletic, smart, and tech savvy."

"Unique, spunky, and inventive!"

"Funny, loyal, and loving."

"Friendly, sporty, and bouncy."

In the big debate, we asked: Should all pets be microchipped?

"Yes! A pet is everything to their owner, so if they got lost it would be devastating."

"I think the owner gets to decide but only if the pet is a free roam or outdoor pet."

"Yes, pets need to be microchipped in case they get lost without a collar."

Now tell us: What is your favorite school supply and why?

Teacher OF THE WEEK



Teacher's Name: **Ms. Erika Salzman**

School: **Public School 40**

"My teacher, Erika Salzman, deserves to be Teacher of the Week for so many reasons. She never yells—it takes a lot to bug her, even just a teensy bit. She is super hardworking. In New York City, we went from fully remote to blended to fully in-person learning. Through all those changes, she kept us on track, made sure we were comfortable, and made school fun."

Raphael, 10, New York City

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.



Puzzle answers (from page 26)

2	1	3	2	3
5	2	4	5	3
4	3	1	2	1
1	5	5	1	4
4	2	4	3	5

Keyword answer:
beetle

Code cracker
English
science
mathematics

Three for all
middle of nowhere
right side up
left in peace

B	B	B	L	E	I	T	C	H
A	O	A	C	O	U			
S	I	X	T	Y	O	F	T	E
E		E		U	A	G		
	T	R	I	A	N	G	U	L
S		B	A					
P	E	D	E	S	T	R	I	A
L	R	E		L		V		
A	L	I	E	N	W	H	O	L
S	N	T	A	N	I			
H	I	K	E		O	X	Y	G



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 b) Brown bears 2 Palindrome 3 a) 1938 4 False. They will go to China's Tiangong station. 5 c) Cars 6 True 7 b) Goat's milk 8 b) Magic Kingdom 9 101 10 c) Arc de Triomphe 11 a) 62.1 million 12 c) Chameleon 13 Alabama 14 b) Connecticut Sun 15 c) American Girl

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 Which bears are the focus of Fat Bear Week?

a) Black bears b) Brown bears c) Polar bears

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 What is the name for a word that is spelled the same forward and backward?

3 In what year was the Addams Family first created?

a) 1938 b) 1954 c) 1969

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

4 True or false? In October, China will send three astronauts to the International Space Station.

5 Which of these vehicles do players race in the game Hot Wheels Unleashed?

a) Airplanes b) Boats c) Cars

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

6 True or false? Counting butterflies at a park is an example of a citizen science project.

7 What did keepers feed young elephants in Kenya during the pandemic?

a) Cow's milk b) Goat's milk c) Oat milk

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 Which of these Walt Disney World parks was the first to open?

a) Epcot

b) Magic Kingdom

c) Animal Kingdom

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐



ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.



9 How many toilet paper rolls did David Rush balance on his head?

10 Which famous European landmark has been wrapped in silver-blue fabric?

a) Eiffel Tower

b) Leaning Tower of Pisa

c) Arc de Triomphe

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

11 About how many Hispanic people live in the US?

a) 62.1 million b) 91.8 million c) 122.6 million

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 South Korean researchers built a robot that looks like which of the following animals?

a) Turtle b) Fish c) Chameleon

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

13 In which US state does the new series *The Wonder Years* take place?

14 Which team was the WNBA's regular season champion?

a) Los Angeles Sparks

b) Connecticut Sun

c) New York Liberty

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

15 Which of these dolls is a 2021 finalist for induction into the National Toy Hall of Fame?

a) Barbie b) Bratz c) American Girl

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

THE WEEK Junior

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